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CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION FROM

REPORT

50X1-HUM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

North Korea

DATE OF INFORMATION

COUNTRY SUBJECT

Economic - War potential

HOW **PUBLISHED** 

Book

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** Moscow NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE DIST. 3 Jan 1951

1950

DATE

**PUBLISHED** 

1950

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

Russian

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

2. AS AMERDED.

SOURCE

Koreya, State Publishing House for Geographic Literature.

## PREWAR PRODUCTION IN NORTH KOREA

V. V. Kovyzhenko

There were 30 ferrous metallurgical enterprises (with 56 blast, 30 openhearth, and more than 100 electric furnaces) and more than 20 nonferrous and light metal plants in all Korea in 1945. Iron ore reserves in Korea amount to more than one billion tons. In 1944, 6.3 million tons of iron ore were mined in Korea, almost all in North Korea. The main iron ore regions are Musan in the far north, Kaech'on, Kangso, and Chaeryong. The Musan region produces about 2 million tons of iron ore annually. The main ferrous metal-producing centers are Kyomip'o, Chongjin, Songjin, and others. In 1944, pig-iron production amounted to about one million tons, steel ... about 300,000 tons, and rolled iron to 125,000 tons.

Production of nonferrous and light metals and coal is also almost completely concentrated in North Korea. Coal production was 8 million tons in 1944. Since the domestic coal is of low quality, high-quality coking coal is imported mostly from Manchuria and North China. Korea has no oil.

There are more than 200 power plants in Korea, including about 20 large plants. Their total capacity equals 2 million kilowatts. In 1944, they produced 2.5 billion kilowatt hours of power; 90 percent of this amount was generated by hydroelectric power plants. The largest plants are those on the Yalu River, 80 kilometers from Sinuiju, (640,000 kilowatts capacity) and the 12 plants on the tributaries of the Yalu and Tuman rivers (750,000 kilowatts total capacity).

The largest chemical enterprise is that at Hungnam which can produce more than one million tons of mineral fertilizer, acids, and other products annually.

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Output of coal, metal, and mineral fertilizer in 1948 was 318.7 percent as compared with 1946, 140 percent as compared with 1947. Cotton cloth production was 7 times greater in 1948 than in 1944.

The grain harvest in North Korea was 626,490 tons greater in 1949 than in 1944, the cotton crop 45,033 tons greater. The sown area in North Korea was 409,000 hectares greater in 1949 than in 1946 due to the utilization of new land.

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